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Entrepreneurship for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the commitments to development and poverty eradication emanating from the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] and the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit,[2] the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[3] and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions,

Welcoming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[4] and recognizing the potential of entrepreneurship to contribute to specific sustainable development objectives,

Reaffirming the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[5] in its holistic approach, and the Doha Declaration on

[1] Resolution 55/2.
[2] Resolution 60/1.
[3] Resolution 65/1.
[4] Resolution 66/288, annex.
[5] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Please recycle

Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[6]

Recalling the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011,[7]

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration[8] and Platform for Action,[9] and the agreed conclusions on access and participation of women and girls in education, training and science and technology including for the promotion of women's equal access to full employment and decent work, adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-fifth session,[10] and stressing that women, particularly in developing countries, are important drivers of entrepreneurship,

Noting the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2012 of the Economic and Social Council on promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty in the context of inclusive, sustainable and equitable economic growth at all levels for achieving the Millennium Development Goals,[11]

Welcoming the contribution of all relevant partners, including the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society, to the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, as well as the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing the important contribution entrepreneurship can make to sustainable development by creating jobs and driving economic growth and innovation, improving social conditions and confronting environmental challenges, and stressing the importance of promoting entrepreneurship in the context of the consideration of the development agenda beyond 2015,

1. *Emphasizes* the need for improved regulatory environments and policy initiatives that promote entrepreneurship and foster small- and medium-sized enterprises and microenterprises, and stresses the positive role entrepreneurship plays in driving job creation and expanding opportunities for all, including for women and youth;

2. *Encourages* Governments to develop and implement policies, taking into account national priorities and circumstances, that address the legal, social and regulatory barriers to equal and effective economic participation and promote

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[6] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[7] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 11.II.A.1), chap. II.

[8] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[9] Ibid., annex II.

[10] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2011, Supplement No. 7* (E/2011/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[11] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/67/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, para. 139.

entrepreneurship across all sectors and industries, including business and social enterprises;

3. *Also encourages* Governments to take a coordinated and integrated approach to promoting entrepreneurship, involving all stakeholders, including civil society, academia and the private sector, while recognizing that non-governmental stakeholders are the main drivers of entrepreneurship;

4. *Emphasizes* that partnerships with the private sector play an important role in promoting entrepreneurship, generating employment and investment, increasing the revenue potential, developing new technologies and innovative business models and enabling high, sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth;

5. *Invites* Member States to strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to provide services to those who have no access to banking, insurance and other financial services, and encourages them to remove institutional and regulatory barriers, increase access to information and promote financial literacy, particularly for women;

6. *Encourages* Member States to expand alternative sources of financing and to diversify the banking system to include non-bank channels, including non-bank sources of microcredit and microfinance, stresses the value of a sound regulatory framework in that regard, and encourages the provision of incentives to microfinance institutions that meet national standards for delivering sound financial services to the poor, with a particular emphasis on women;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of supporting national efforts aimed at bringing informal workers into the formal economy;

8. *Recognizes* the value of teaching entrepreneurial skills at all levels of education, ensuring the full and equal participation of women and girls, and encourages entrepreneurship education through skills development, capacity-building, training programmes and business incubators;

9. *Acknowledges* the role of entrepreneurship in enabling youth to turn their creativity, energy and ideas into business opportunities by helping to facilitate their entry into the labour market;

10. *Recognizes* that democratic political institutions, transparent and accountable public and private entities, effective anti-corruption measures and responsible corporate governance are key conditions for making market economies and enterprises perform in superior ways and be more responsive to the values and long-term goals of society;

11. *Acknowledges* that the active participation of the private sector can contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and support national regulatory and policy frameworks that enable business and industry to advance sustainable development initiatives, taking into account the importance of responsible business practices and corporate social responsibility;

12. *Encourages* countries to consider establishing or strengthening national centres of excellence in entrepreneurship and similar bodies, and also encourages cooperation and networking and the sharing of best practices between them;

13. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to further recognize and integrate entrepreneurship in its various forms into their policies, programmes and reports and to support national efforts in that regard, as appropriate;

14. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene at the sixty-seventh session a high-level thematic debate, to be held in plenary meeting, to discuss promoting entrepreneurship at the national, regional and international levels;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, with a view to highlighting best practices in support of entrepreneurship.